

From: Billy Harvey
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:27am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

This is a bad settlement. 90% of Microsoft's value is due to its continued predatory business model. Distribution of their own software a situation that only applauds their anticompetitive attitudes, and serves to strengthen their position for their next (and even their ongoing) attempts to simply demolish any sort of competition.

If Microsoft wants to distribute software, then the schools in question should be allowed to bill Microsoft for all the software they want that is of no financial benefit to Microsoft - for the next decade. Having to buy a few million copies of their competitor's offerings would encourage Microsoft to behave better in the future - but certainly not allowing them to distribute their own software which costs them nearly nothing in additional expense after it's been initially created.

Microsoft should be broken up into multiple companies (or liquidated), and all interfaces between those companies should be made to be public documents for exisitant software, and also for the next decade. If those companies can survive on their own, then bravo, but Microsoft should not be allowed to enjoy the benefits of the market share they gain through so many examples of theft.

Billy Harvey
Greenville, SC